

# KENTUCKY ENERGY WATCH

A weekly update of energy issues & prices

## Media Excerpts: A snapshot of state and national energy issues

**Public urged to cut waste** — In an effort to get Kentuckians to improve their environmental habits, the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection is challenging individuals and businesses to reduce their waste disposal, energy consumption and water use by 10 percent each over the next three years under a program dubbed the 10-10-10 Challenge. While Kentucky ranks 26th in the nation in population, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, it is the seventh highest consumer of energy in BTUs. While Kentucky has made significant environmental improvements over the past few decades, the state still lags behind most others in many areas that influence the environment and can negatively affect Kentucky's economy, said Aaron B. Keatley, director of the Kentucky DEP's Division of Compliance Assistance. (Bowling Green Daily News, October 16, 2010)

**Burlington Elementary wins energy award** — Burlington Elementary earned the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Award. The award is given to organizations that have made outstanding contributions to protecting the environment through energy efficiency. The school wasn't aiming to earn the award, but was just looking for ways to cut down on energy costs, said Principal David Sammons. The award does help motivate students and staff to work even harder to conserve energy in the school, Sammons said. "It raises our level of awareness about energy usage," he said. The school recently formed an energy team where students will do an energy audit of the school to find more ways to implement conservation techniques. (NKY.Cincinatti.com, October, 15, 2010)

**HCS gets blue star for energy savings** — Hardin County Schools district has been saving money since 2003, not by cutting the budget, but by cutting down on energy consumption. HCS has been named the second most energy efficient school district in the state by the Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools. HCS has eight schools that have been given Energy Star status. Warren County Schools was deemed the most energy efficient with 13 Energy Star schools. The district has cut back on its energy usage through a conservation program that began in 2003, and so far it has saved more than \$4 million for the district. (The News-Enterprise, October 18, 2010)

**Natural gas provider predicts lower bills** — Atmos Energy says most of its utility customers in Kentucky could pay lower natural gas bills this winter compared with last winter. "Our residential customers could save, on average, about 5 to 10 percent for the natural gas they use this winter, compared with their gas costs during the past winter," said Kevin Akers, president of Atmos Energy, Kentucky division, in a news release. "These savings result from continued low natural gas prices, more production and Atmos Energy's ability to utilize underground storage. Experts predict natural gas prices likely will remain low well into 2011." (The Paducah Sun, October 27, 2010)

**Coal miner killed in Union County mine accident** — Kentucky mine safety investigators are looking into the death of a miner in a Union County mine. The Kentucky Office of Mine Safety & Licensing said it is investigating the death of James Jeffrey Falk, 39, after he was apparently struck by a shuttle car at the River View Coal mine in Waverly, KY. The time of the accident was not released, but officials said that area of the mine is closed. State officials told us River View is owned and operated by Alliance Resource Partners - the same owner of the Dotiki Mine in Hopkins County. Two Dotiki miners were killed this spring when part of the mine's roof collapsed. The death is the sixth mining fatality in Kentucky this year. (News 25, October 27, 2010)

**Ribbon-cutting planned for ECU research laboratory** — A ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 28, will mark the official opening of the new research laboratory for Eastern Kentucky University's Center for Renewable and Alternative Fuel Technology (CRAFT). The opening of the state-of-the-art research facility symbolizes the rapid growth of CRAFT since its establishment in December 2008. In less than two years, the Center has grown from a concept into a viable research center dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary research to develop a regional biofuels industry in Kentucky. (The Richmond Register, October, 20, 2010)

**U.S. set first fuel standards for big trucks** — The Obama administration on Monday proposed the first ever fuel efficiency and emissions standards for big tractor trailers and other commercial trucks. The joint Transportation Department and Environmental Protection Agency initiative covers a range of vehicles from delivery vans to long-haul rigs, and is expected to cut nearly 250 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions over the lifespans of vehicles produced within the program's first five years. The regulation, which would not be final until mid-2011, covers new trucks for model years 2014 to 2018. The standards, which are divided among three categories of vehicles, will save 500 million barrels of oil for vehicles manufactured during these model years. (Reuters, October 25, 2010)

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## Kentucky Retail Fuel Prices (Dollars per gallon)

Product	10/29/10	10/22/10	10/15/10	10/08/10	Year Ago
Gasoline (State avg.)	2.750	2.773	2.786	2.769	2.654
Ashland	2.781	2.815	2.853	2.828	2.672
Covington	2.813	2.827	2.852	2.870	2.734
Lexington	2.755	2.777	2.787	2.779	2.643
Louisville	2.771	2.812	2.793	2.862	2.714
Owensboro	2.686	2.724	2.741	2.659	2.609
Diesel (State avg.)	3.032	3.036	3.043	3.019	2.752
Ashland	3.033	3.155	3.053	3.044	2.773
Covington	3.042	3.037	3.039	3.026	2.805
Lexington	3.046	3.057	3.065	3.049	2.773
Louisville	3.016	3.037	3.034	3.029	2.754
Owensboro	3.042	3.030	3.054	2.978	2.693

**Note:** The record high average price for gasoline in Kentucky is \$4.089, reported on July 10, 2008.

**Source:** [Gasoline \(unleaded regular\)](#) & [Diesel: National AAA](#).

## Wholesale Fuel Prices

Spot Prices	10/28/10	10/22/10	10/14/10	10/07/10	Year Ago
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>West Texas Intermediate, fob</i>	82.18	80.06	82.69	81.76	79.87
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	3.355	3.425	3.565	3.510	4.100

**Source:** [Wall Street Journal](#)

Futures		November-10	December-10	January-11
	10/28/10	-	82.18	82.94
Crude Oil (Dollars per barrel) <i>Light Sweet Crude Oil</i>	10/22/10	81.77	80.56	81.33
	10/14/10	82.69	83.36	84.04
Natural Gas (Dollars per MMBtu) <i>Henry-Hub</i>	10/28/10	3.292	3.890	4.130
	10/22/10	3.368	3.750	4.018
	10/14/10	3.657	4.016	4.244
Propane (Dollars per gallon) <i>Mt Belvieu (OPIS)</i>	10/28/10	1.236	1.239	1.243
	10/22/10	1.196	1.199	1.065
	10/14/10	1.238	1.240	1.244
Coal (Dollars per ton) <i>Central Appalachian</i>	10/28/10	64.67	66.38	67.23
	10/22/10	63.00	64.22	66.12
	10/14/10	61.92	62.88	64.30

**Source:** [CME Group](#)

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